



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON  
DISABILITIES  
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374A  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
<http://laccod.org>**

**Wednesday, February 18, 2015**

**1:00 PM**

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (15-0925)

**Attachments:** [AUDIO](#)

Call to Order. (15-0801)

**President Janet A. Neal called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.  
Commissioners Wan Chun Chang and Sheila D. Wright joined the meeting  
at 1:15 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., respectively.**

**Emma De Jesus, Commission Staff, called the roll and noted that a quorum  
was established.**

Present: President Janet A. Neal, 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro,  
2nd Vice President John B. Troost, Treasurer Winslow C.  
Reitnouer, Commissioner Carlos Benavides, Commissioner John  
R. James, Commissioner Steve Miller, Commissioner Alexia  
Teran, Commissioner Sheila D. Wright and Commissioner Wan  
Chun Chang

Absent: Commissioner Maria Mustelier-Parrish

Excused: Commissioner Edward A. Colley and Commissioner Michael  
Gureckas

**I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

1. Receive and file President Report for February 2015. (15-0802)

**President Janet A. Neal thanked Commissioners for attending the meeting.  
She read a biography of past Commissioner Ernest Hamilton, Jr. and  
dedicated the meeting in his honor.**

2. Approval of the Minutes from the meeting of September 17, 2014 (Continued from the meetings of 10/15/14, 11/19/14 and 12/17/14). (14-4171)

**On motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Steve Miller, there being no objection, this item was approved.**

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS](#)

3. Receive and file the Summary of Notes from the meeting of October 15, 2014. (Continued from the meeting of 11/19/14 and 12/17/14) (14-5276)

**On motion of 2nd Vice President John B. Troost, seconded by Commissioner Alexia Teran, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.**

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Receive and file the Summary of Notes from the meeting of November 19, 2014. (14-5505)

**On motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Treasurer Winslow C. Reitnouer, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.**

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

5. Receive and file the Summary of Notes from the meeting of December 17, 2014. (14-5507)

**On motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Alexia Teran, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.**

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

6. Receive and file the Summary of Notes from the meeting of January 21, 2015. (15-0800)

**On motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Steve Miller, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.**

Attachments:    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS](#)

7. Discussion and consideration of action of letter in support of Community Based services as drafted by Commissioner Steve Miller. (Continued from the meeting of 11/19/14) (14-5130)

**Commissioner Steve Miller summarized the recently approved preliminary State Budget of California Governor Jerry Brown. He noted that the Budget excluded an increase in funds for services to the intellectually disabled and that continued discussion regarding the Budget are currently being held and will continue in May 2015. He added, that the letter the Commission is considering today, requesting an increase in funding, could potentially impact the 80,000 plus - that reside in Los Angeles County.**

**After discussion, on motion of Treasurer Winslow C. Reitnouer, seconded by Commissioner John James, this item was approved.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
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8. Receive and File Trust Fund Balance Report as submitted by Treasurer Winslow Reitnouer. (Continued from the meeting of 12/17/14) (14-5676)

**Treasurer Reitnouer presented the Commission's Trust Fund Balance Report.**

**Following discussion, on motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Carlos Benavides, this item was received and filed.**

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
[SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

9. Recommendation to approve the 2015 Scholarship Presentation and Orientation to be held June 30, 2015 in the amount not to exceed \$3,250. (15-0814)

**On motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Treasurer Winslow C. Reitnouer, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the budget for the 2015 Scholarship Presentation and Orientation to be held on June 30, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$3,250.**

**II. PRESENTATION**

10. Presentation by Joseph Rivera of LA County Office of Education (LACOE), on the Early Childhood Intervention Program. (15-0815)

**Joseph Rivera, Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), provided a packet of the California's Early Intervention Program established for infants to toddlers with disabilities and their families. The home-based program involves a teacher providing Early Intervention Support Services (EISS) at the disabled child's home. He further stated that the referral process is open for anyone and/or professional organization that may have concerns about a child's development. A referral can be made on the LACOE website, Los Angeles County 211 phone number that provides free information about all types of human services or directly to the EISS office at (562) 940-1700. The program is free to the public and is funded by the State and Federal Government. It is mandated to provide EISS within a 45-day time period after the referral is received without exception.**

**Mr. Rivera stated that during the height of the recession, a few categories were eliminated, but have since been restored in its entirety. Also, he makes a diligent effort to ensure the public is aware of EISS by holding community meetings and Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) consortiums, with other organizations.**

**In response to Commissioner Teran's question, Mr. Rivera stated that after the teacher's one hour session with the child, the teacher spends an additional hour with the parent to teach the parent how to reinforce what the child has learned. He further stated that parents are taught how to recognize the developmental stages of a child to discourage children from being undiagnosed.**

**Following discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, the Commission requested staff research adding the LACOE website link to the Commission's website.**

**III. DISCUSSIONS**

11. Discussion and take appropriate action regarding teleconferencing as a reasonable accommodation to achieve a quorum. (15-0811)

**Kathleen Austria, Deputy Second District, Michelle Vega, Deputy Fifth District, Richard Espinosa, Deputy Fourth District and Jason Carnevale, County Counsel addressed the Commission regarding teleconferencing as a reasonable accommodation to achieve a quorum.**

**During discussion, the Commission was asked to try teleconferencing for one year in an effort to establish a quorum. In having a quorum, which would assist the Commission in conducting business to address more issues and services pertaining to the disabled, producing a more substantive annual report to the Board.**

**Jason Carnevale provided an overview of the teleconferencing requirements and noted Commissioners are required to post the agenda at their location for public viewing and provide two-way communication to participate in the meetings. He further added Commissioners constituting a quorum must be within the Los Angeles County area.**

**Commissioner Carlos Benavides, 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, Treasurer Winslow Reitnouer, and Commission Alexia Teran, cited their oppositions to teleconferencing. Commissioner Carlos Benavides stated, he would support teleconferencing, if Commissioners were provided training; however, sees the benefits for the constituents that attend the regular meetings personally. 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro asked the Districts also consider filling the vacant Youth seat and the Billy Barty seat.**

**Twila Kerr, Chief of Commission Services provided a brief overview of Commission appointments/reappointments by the Board. She also stated, Commissioners serve at the pleasure of the Board and can only be removed by Board approval or if their term has expired.**

**Commissioner Steve Miller suggested forming an ad hoc committee that includes Board Deputies to create a viable solution.**

**After discussion, on motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Alexia Teran, there being no objection, the Commission declined teleconferencing for their meetings.**

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**After further discussion, on motion of Commissioner Steve Miller, seconded by Commissioner Wendy Welt Narro, there being no objection, the Commission approved creating an ad hoc committee, to collaborate with Board offices and to fill Commission vacancies and set a protocol for attendance.**

**Kathleen Austria and Richard Espinosa volunteered to be the contact point persons on the Teleconferencing ad-hoc Committee and report back to the Commission with recommendations. Commissioners Steve Miller and Carlos Benavides will serve on the Committee.**

**Dr. Genevieve Clavreul and Linda Block, members of the public, addressed the Commission.**

- 12. Open Discussion on Liaison Ad-Hoc Committee's recommendation to County Department Liaisons. (15-0716)**

**Commissioner Steve Miller provided an historical overview of the recommendations and an explanation of the draft letter template that supports a protocol for inviting County Departments to Commission meetings.**

**Following discussion, on motion on Commissioner Steve Miller, seconded by Commissioner John James, unanimously carried, the Commission approved the draft letter template as the formal letter to present to County Department Heads to attend the Commission meeting to present information regarding the performance of the Department.**

**Attachments:** [LACCOD\\_05 15 2013\\_Item 5 and 6 Transcript](#)  
[DRAFT LETTER TEMPLATE](#)

#### **IV. REPORTS**

- 13. Receive and File Committee Reports for February 2015:**

**Events / Standing Committee:**

- **Events:** Commissioners Neal (Chair), Reitnouer, Teran, Troost
- **Education:** Commissioners Troost (Chair), James, Neal
- **Transportation:** Commissioners Neal (Chair), Reitnouer, Troost, Teran
- **Housing:** Commissioners Welt Narro (Chair), Teran, Neal

**Executive Committee:**

- **President** (Neal), **1st Vice President** (Welt Narro), **2nd Vice President** (Troost), **Treasurer** (Reitnouer) (15-0803)

**Events/Standing Committee Report**

**EVENTS** - Chair Janet A. Neal reported that the Committee is planning the logistics of the Access Awards Reception.

**EDUCATION** - There was no report provided by Chair John B. Troost.

**TRANSPORTATION** - Chair Janet A. Neal reported that the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works will attend an upcoming Commission meeting to discuss the criteria for blue curbs, curb cuts and level sidewalks.

**HOUSING** - Chair Janet A. Neal requested staff schedule a speaker to discuss services for disabled homeless.

**HEALTH** - Chair Wendy Welt Narro reported the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) began its new campaign for the Board of Supervisors to increase home health care worker's salaries from \$9 to \$15.

Chair Janet A. Neal reported that the Executive Committee will schedule a workshop following a future meeting.

**Attachments:**    [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT EVENTS STANDING](#)  
[SUPPORTING DOCUMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE](#)

14. Receive and file the Monthly Report by Louis Burns, Access Services Customer Service Support Administrator, Access Services Incorporated. (15-0812)

Louis Burns announced Access Services (Access) will hold a public hearing on MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. at the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority to receive public input and comments on the proposed amendment to the Los Angeles County Coordinated Paratransit Plan related to origin to destination (door to door) service. In addition, he introduced his assistant, Stephen Wrenn, who will be attending some of the meetings.

Commissioner Carlos Benavides mentioned his work with Access in establishing train-the-trainer workshops to improve the services of new workers and other individuals. Also, they intend to video the program to present to all division.

Mr. Burns thanked Commissioner Benavides for the collaboration.

**On motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Commissioner Steve Miller, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.**

- 15.** Receive and file the Access Services, Incorporated Board of Directors meeting report of February 2015. (15-0804)

**Commissioner Carlos Benavides read for the record, 2nd Vice President John B. Troost's Access Services, Incorporated Board Meeting report. After discussion, on motion of 1st Vice President Wendy Welt Narro, seconded by Treasurer Winslow C. Reitnouer, there being no objection, this item was received and filed.**

- 16.** Receive and file the monthly report presented by Giovanna Gogreve, ADA Para-Transit Program Administrator for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (METRO) (Continued from the meeting of 2/18/15). (15-0805)

**Dr. Genevieve Clavreul, member of the public addressed the Commission with concerns regarding the treatment of wheelchairs especially from bicyclist.**

**Kim Whyte, member of the public expressed her concerns about the treatment received by drivers on Metro buses.**

**By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued to a future meeting without further discussion.**

- 17.** Receive and file Commissioner Announcements for February 2015. (15-0806)

**President Janet A. Neal reported staff is finalizing the scholarship applications that will be disseminated to the public.**

**Commissioner Alexia Teran requested staff to share with the Commission the newspaper article regarding the "8th Annual Peace Walk April 18, 2015". She plans to attend the event and requested the Commission banner, bags and promotional items be made available to her.**



18. Discussion and consideration of action regarding the impact of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) has on people living with disabilities as submitted by Commissioner Edward A. Colley (Continued from the meetings of 06/18/14, 8/20/14, 9/17/14, 10/15/14 and 2/18/15). (13-4719)

**This item was continued to a future meeting without discussion.**

**V. MISCELLANEOUS**

**Matters Not Posted**

19. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Commission, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (15-0807)

**The following item was introduced for discussion and posted on the agenda for action at a future meeting.**

- 19A. Recommendation as submitted by Commissioner Carlos Benavides: Report on wheelchair access to the edge of the ocean at local beaches as discussed at the February 18, 2015 meeting. (15-0899)

**On motion of Commissioner Carlos Benavides, and by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was introduced for discussion and placed on the agenda of April 15, 2015.**

**Public Comment**

20. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (15-0808)

**Jacob Cohen spoke about having difficulty finding a primary physician to talk to him about the side effects of drugs.**

**Chanh To announced the March 7, 2015 the 1st Annual Parents Caregivers Conference at Saint Anne's in Los Angeles, CA and the March 10, 2015 Discovery to Recovery: A Path to Healthy Minds Conference at the Luxe Sunset Boulevard Hotel in Los Angeles.**

**Linda Block spoke about the Assembly Bill on gasoline.**

**Adjournment**

21. Adjournment for the meeting of February 18, 2015. (15-0809)

**On motion of Commissioner Steve Miller, seconded by Commissioner John James, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.**